

WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS

Public Ledger

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Circulation More Than 1,000 Daily.

The spectacle presented in the capitals of the forty-four states of the Union on Monday was one whose majesty no Monarchy can equal. Without pomp or parade the Electors, chosen under the forms of the Constitution, met and declared the result of the election of November 8th in their several states. The President, who will take his seat as Chief Magistrate of the United States on March 4th in consequence of the election which was thus formally ratified, is not the choice of a majority of the American people. He was in a minority, so far as the popular vote is concerned, of nearly a million ballots; but he was elected in accordance with the Constitution and the laws, and no American citizen would dream for one moment of resisting his inauguration. No powerful standing army enforces the fundamental law of the land. Its safeguard is the voluntary and obedient respect of all good citizens. In a country where the people are the sovereigns, the transfer of power from one great party to another causes neither disturbance nor excitement. The victorious party has no need to assert its authority by force. The vanquished admit every right of their opponents without dispute, even while they are reforming their ranks for another trial of strength four years hence.

DEMOCRATIC officeholders sometimes die but they never resign. HIRAM SMITH, appointed Postmaster at Bashan, O., by President BUCHANAN, has just died at the age of 67, holding office more than half his life.

WHEN the light of JAMES G. BLAINE goes out, it will be sickening to read the slobberings of the ultra-Democratic press over the statesmanship of that matchless American. The most fulsome praise may be expected from those who never could find a good word for the great man while he lived. Post mortem praise is always generous; it is the justice of the living present that counts.

THE proposed whipping-post amendment to the Crimes and Punishment Bill was defeated in the State Senate, the vote of the Lieutenant Governor being necessary to bring about this result. It does look as though the reintroduction of the whipping-post would be a step in the direction of a return to barbarism; and yet there are times when even that humiliating punishment would hardly at the crime.

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KENTUCKY WEATHER REPORT.

What We May Expect Between This Time and To-Morrow Evening.

THE LEDGER'S WEATHER SIGNALS.

White streamer—FAIR; Blue—RAIN OF SNOW; With Black ABOVE—TWIN WARMER STOW. If Black's BENEATH—COLDER 'Twill be; Unless Black's shown—no change we'll see.



The above forecasts are made for a period of thirty-six hours, ending at 8 o'clock to-morrow evening.

Mrs. BETTIE ALLEN of Paris accidentally fell and broke her hip.

The liverymen of Louisville charge \$5 per hour for a single horse and sleigh.

There was charged to the Sheriff of Fleming county by the state for taxes for 1892 \$25,689.

The pump-house of the water-works is not in operation to-day, as some repairs are being made on it by Cincinnati parties.

The final estimates of the Agricultural Department at Washington place Kentucky at the head of the list of Southern agricultural states.

The French Courts have decided that a young man born in France of a French mother and English father must serve his time in the French Army.

The colored people of Paris have commenced the publication of a newspaper devoted to the interests of that race. Paris now has five papers.

At Leavenworth the other day a rope thrown to a man who broke through the ice was seized by a horse which held onto the rope with his teeth until the man was rescued.

The French syndicate which is building the much-talked-of railroad from Jerusalem to Jaffa finds that the estimated cost of 6,000,000 francs will be considerably exceeded. The road has been in progress of construction for two years and is about half done. It is fifty-seven miles in length, or seventeen miles longer than the shortest highway now in use between the two cities.

WHAT is claimed to be the largest freight car ever built was turned out at Altoona, Pa., a few days ago. It is to carry the 124-ton cannon Krupp is making for exhibition at Chicago from Baltimore to Chicago. The car is practically two cars, with eight pairs of wheels each, jointed together and made into one by an iron bridge. Another car of almost equal size is building to transport two sixty-five-ton guns and a big piece of armor plate over the same route.

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GAMBLING CLUBS IN BELGIUM.

In Defiance of Law High Play is Carried On to an Unlimited Extent.

In 1871 the Belgian authorities definitely and officially closed the officially licensed public gambling establishment at Spa and Ostend, following, in this respect, the example of the German government, which had a few months previously abolished the public tables at Baden Baden, Wiesbaden, Hamburg and Aix-la-Chapelle. Before long, however, a number of clubs, falsely described as "private," sprang up at Ostend, Spa, Blankenberge, Namur, Dinant and other places, where gambling was carried on just the same as before, with this difference, however, that whereas the public gambling tables had been subjected to the most stringent government inspection, the private clubs were not. These clubs, according to a correspondent of the New York Tribune, are open to anybody and everybody. Thus, for instance, at Ostend there are at least a dozen in the town besides the one which is located at the Casino. The clubs in town have nothing sly or secret about them. One is in the market place with an open door and a big brass plate at the side of it informing all that a social reunion is held every night within. Anybody who likes can enter. A secretary or clerk at the door makes a pretense of inscribing whatever name one may choose to give him on a register, and the visitor becomes forthwith a member of the club for the space of twelve months without any kind of introduction, fee or formality being required. Another club of the same kind has been inscribed on the front of the house which it occupies in large gilt words: "The Cercle Gendule." At the latter the game is invariably ecarte. The players sit at the middle of a long table facing each other. At one end of the table is seated one of the officials of the club, who keeps the book with the list of names of members desiring to play. Directly a game is over he calls the names from the list, and the beaten player who wishes to retire is replaced by another; or, in the case of banque ouverte, the losing player is instantly changed at the end of each game. By the side of the two players, between them and the official above mentioned, sit two others of the club officials whose duty it is to enter all bets, to receive and pay the money in notes, gold and five-franc pieces, to shuffle the cards, to hold the pack not in use and generally to see fair play. Large crowds usually stand behind each player's chair betting on the play.

UNITED STATES VOLCANOES.

Alaska and the Aleutian Islands the Volcanic Region of the World.

Prof. George Davidson, of the coast and geodetic survey, who was one of the pioneer explorers of Alaska, takes a deep interest in the recent reports of volcanic disturbances in the far north. When seen by a San Francisco Chronicle man he said: "There is really nothing remarkable about the volcanic disturbances in Alaska, although the event is of interest. The whole coast of Alaska out to the east of the Aleutian Islands is the volcanic and glacial region of the world. It is quite to be expected almost every week that some of the numerous volcanoes along that rugged coast will break forth, fill the air with cinders, ashes and smoke and cover the glaciers with nasty black sand and soot. Chignik bay, from which this last eruption was seen, is in latitude 56 degrees 19 minutes 20 seconds north and longitude 158 degrees 24 minutes 25 seconds west of Greenwich, on the southeast coast of the peninsula of Alaska, opposite the Semidi islands and about 800 miles from the end of the peninsula. The observer could not have seen Black peak as reported, for it is only 24 miles west-northwest from his position. He saw Mount Pavlov, on the west side of Pavlov bay, distant about 145 miles south, 42 degrees west from Chignik bay. The man who was at Westnesenski island, lying off Pavlov bay, saw Pavlov volcano, distant from him 29 miles north, 68 degrees west. "Pavlov is one of the fifty volcanoes of the peninsula of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, of which twenty-five are in a state of activity, shown by smoking. Just west of Pavlov, about 10 miles, lies a cluster of peaks called Agghleen pinnacles, which are all marked by craters. Pavlov is in latitude 55 degrees 27 minutes north, longitude 161 degrees 47 minutes west, and it has two craters. In 1764 and 1766, according to Russian authorities, Pavlov was active, in 1898 it was smoking and it was 1897 I saw it smoking myself. Pavlov is visible from all of the Shumagin islands, of which Megas is the largest. The view is particularly good from Sand Harbor, on Megas island. I shall not be surprised to learn of more eruptions in that locality at any time, for, as I said before, it is the volcanic region of the whole world."

Iceland's Milk-White Lake.

Herr Thoroddsen announces that he has found "a very long lake," stretching from the margin of the mighty glacier which forms the western side of the Vatna-Jokull, in Iceland. It is milk-white, from the glacier water of which it is composed, and has been named the Langjokull. The scenery around it is described as very beautiful, though the discoverer adds that "vegetation is quite absent." On the other side of the chain which terminates the lake in the south there is an extensive plateau, on which was seen the glitter of a large watercourse, probably the Skapti, and far to the south some great lava stream, dating, probably, from the 1738 eruption.

Turkish Proverbs.

Don't take a wife during the holiday season and don't buy a horse in bad weather.

Two knives cannot find room in one sheath nor two loves in one heart.

When you are buying a horse don't consult a pedestrian, and when you are courting a woman don't ask advice of a bachelor.

Wounds caused by a sword can be healed, but wounds caused by a tongue cannot.

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